# EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACADEMIC, RESEARCH, AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

#### **MINUTES**

# November 19, 2021 Johnson City, Tennessee

The East Tennessee State University Board of Trustees' Academic, Research and Student Success Committee met on Friday, November 19, 2021, at 8:00 a.m. in the East Tennessee Room of the D.P. Culp Student Center.

#### I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Janet Ayers called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Trustee Ayers welcomed the newest member of the Board, Trustee Charles Allen.

#### II. Roll Call

Board Secretary Dr. Adam Green led the roll call and confirmed to the Committee Chair that a quorum was present.

Because Committee Chair Ayers participated remotely, in accordance with Tennessee Code § 8-44-108 section (c) (3), Dr. Green asked Committee Chair Ayers for the record if she could clearly hear so that she could participate in the meeting, and if she would identify any persons present in the room with her from which she was participating in the meeting. She reported that she could hear and was alone. Those Trustees present in the East Tennessee Room affirmed they were able to hear Committee Chair Ayers. Additionally, Dr. Green reported that since a Trustee is participating remotely, should any votes be taken, they must be taken by roll call.

Committee Members present were:

Trustee Charles Allen
Trustee Virginia Foley
Board Chair Dr. Linda Latimer
Trustee Melissa Stegall-Jones
Committee Chair Janet Ayers
Absent Trustee Kara Gilliam (non-voting student member)

# III. Approval of the Academic, Research, and Student Success Committee Minutes from September 17, 2021

The minutes from September 17, 2021, were approved as submitted, with Trustee Melissa Steagall-Jones making the motion and Trustee Virginia Foley seconding the motion. A vote was taken by roll call, and the motion passed unanimously.

# IV. Approval of Letter of Notification Regarding Establishment of a Master of Music Degree

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academics, Dr. Kimberly McCorkle, presented a Letter of Notification for the Master of Music Degree to the Committee as a review protocol necessary for the establishment of a new academic program. This item had been properly vetted through the internal curriculum process, including approval by Academic Council, University Council, and President Noland. Pending approval by the Board, this Letter of Notification will be sent to the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, where it will be posted for public comment, reviewed by external academic evaluators, and subsequently recommended for approval by the Commission. Unless substantial curricular or fiscal changes are made to this academic program proposal, as a result of the THEC and external review process, no additional action by the Board will be required.

Dr. McCorkle continued her presentation by covering the highlights of the Master of Music program. She noted that a detailed description was included in the agenda materials.

The Letter of Notification Regarding Establishment of a Master of Music Degree was approved as submitted with Trustee Virginia Foley making the motion and Trustee Melissa Stegall-Jones seconding the motion. A vote was taken by roll call, and the motion passed unanimously.

## V. Research Update

Dr. Robert Pack, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs College of Public Health and Director of the ETSU Addiction Science Center, provided an update on the Center's research and work.

Dr. Pack reported that the ETSU Addiction Science Center was created in 2016 to partner with affected communities in Central Appalachia to advance the science of substance abuse prevention and treatment. Building on longstanding relationships forged over frequent and ongoing collaboration for more than nine years, the ETSU

Addiction Science Center's faculty, University affiliates, and community partners have submitted 44 addiction-focused proposals (19 of which have been funded for more than \$10 million). The Addiction Science Center has published more than three dozen peer-reviewed journal articles and made over 150 educational and scientific presentations to community, regional and national audiences. The Center's faculty have trained dozens of students in community-based participatory research methods focused on sustained positive impact, which furthers the mission of the University. In his presentation, Dr. Pack described the process he and his colleagues used to develop the ETSU Addiction Science Center team and provided a high-level overview of their ongoing work.

Dr. Nick Hagemeier, Interim Vice Provost for Research, updated the Board on the latest research efforts across the University. He reported that collaborations between the College of Public Health, Gatton College of Pharmacy, Quillen College of Medicine, and the College of Arts and Sciences have been integral to the research success experienced here at ETSU. The Committee for 125 Chapter II articulated a vision for ETSU to be recognized as a nationally preeminent research institution. Dr. Hagemeier's priority for the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs has been to instill a top-notch culture in support of communications with, advocates for, and champions of research at the Institution. He explained ways the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs can better serve the research community and meet the vision of the Committee 125 Chapter II.

### VI. Enrollment Update

Deferred to a later date due to time limitations.

#### VII. Student Success at ETSU

Deferred to a later date due to time limitations.

### VIII. Committee Discussion

Committee members discussed the roles of Office of Research and Sponsored Programs versus the ETSU Research Corporation. In response, President Noland informed the Board that a strategic plan has been prepared by the 125 Chapter II Research Taskforce and will be presented to the Committee for 125 Chapter II at the end of November. The final document will be presented to the Board at the February meeting.

# IX. Other Business

No other business items were discussed.

# X. Adjournment

The Committee was adjourned with Board Chair Linda Latimer making the motion and Trustee Virginia Foley making the second.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Green

Secretary of the Board of Trustees

Approved by the Board of Trustees at its February 18, 2022 meeting.